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18 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
19 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

20 The Icon at Panorama, LLC,  
21 Plaintiff,

22 vs.

23 Southwest Regional Council of  
24 Carpenters; Laborers International  
25 Union of North America Local 300;  
26 Daniel Langford, an individual;  
27 Alexis Olbrej, an individual; Ron  
28 Diamant, an individual; Pete  
Rodriguez, an individual; Ernesto  
Pantoja, an individual; Sergio  
Rascon, an individual; Angel Olvera,  
an individual; SWAPE, LLC, a  
California limited liability company;  
Smith Engineering & Management,  
a California corporation; unnamed  
spouses of all named individual  
Defendants, and DOES 1 through 10,  
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: 2:19-CV-00181

**COMPLAINT FOR:**

1. **ATTEMPTED  
MONOPOLIZATION IN  
VIOLATION OF SECTION 2 OF  
THE SHERMAN ACT**
2. **CONSPIRACY TO  
MONOPOLIZE IN VIOLATION  
OF SECTION 2 OF THE  
SHERMAN ACT**
3. **DIRECTING A "GROUP  
BOYCOTT" IN VIOLATION OF  
SECTION 1 OF THE SHERMAN  
ACT**
4. **CONSPIRACY AND ATTEMPT  
TO ENTER INTO EXCLUSIVE  
DEALING ARRANGEMENT IN  
VIOLATION OF SECTION 3 OF  
THE CLAYTON ACT AND  
SECTION 1 OF THE SHERMAN  
ACT**
5. **VIOLATION OF LABOR  
MANAGEMENT RELATIONS  
ACT, 29 U.S.C. § 187**

**6. RACKETEER INFLUENCED  
AND CORRUPT  
ORGANIZATIONS ACT, 18  
U.S.C. § 1962 (C)**  
**7. UNFAIR COMPETITION, CAL.  
BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200,  
AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS  
AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff, The Icon at Panorama, LLC (“Icon”) alleges as follows:

**Jurisdiction and Venue**

1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and § 1337. This action arises under the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 15, 26, to obtain injunctive relief, damages and costs, including reasonable attorneys’ fees for violations of sections 1 and 2 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1, 2, section 303 of the Labor Management Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. § 187, and the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations statute, 18 U.S.C. § 1961 *et seq.*

2. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 over the state law causes of action because those causes of action are related to the federal law causes of action and form part of the same case and controversy under Article III of the United States Constitution.

3. The conduct alleged in this Complaint occurred in interstate commerce and has affected and will continue to substantially and directly affect interstate commerce.

4. The Court has personal jurisdiction over the Defendants and venue is proper in the Central District of California because (a) all Defendants reside in the State of California and at least one of the Defendants resides in this District, and (b) substantial parts of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this District.

### **Introduction**

5. The Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters (“SWRCC”) and the Laborers International Union of North America Local 300 (“LIUNA”) have conspired to dominate, monopolize, and control the sale of labor services to developers of large real estate projects within Los Angeles County, California by engaging in anti-competitive conduct and racketeering activities, including fraud and extortion, by means of, *inter alia*, their pattern and practice of filing repeated sham litigation under the guise of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”). This fraudulent, extortionist, and anti-competitive conduct is commonly referred to as “greenmail.”

6. Throughout this Complaint the term “Union Defendants” will mean SWRCC and LIUNA, whether acting directly as a labor organization or through any of its officers, directors, employees, or agents authorized to act on behalf of one or both organizations.

7. For nearly two decades, the former Montgomery Ward building at 14665 Roscoe Boulevard in Panorama City has sat abandoned, attracting homeless encampments, gangs, graffiti, and various other criminal activities. Once a popular shopping destination, the department store shut its doors in 2001 after struggling to compete with other retailers.

8. Icon purchased the vacant site in January of 2016 and based on feedback from the City and numerous community stakeholders, Icon submitted an application to the Los Angeles Department of City Planning (“Department of City Planning”), proposing to transform the vacant and dilapidated property that encompasses an approximate nine-acre site, into a mixed-use complex, including numerous residential units and commercial space – known as The Icon Panorama Project (“Project”).

1           9.     The Department of City Planning, the area's City Council Office,  
2 neighboring property and business owners, Panorama City residents, business  
3 leaders, the Panorama City Neighborhood Council, the Panorama City Chamber  
4 of Commerce, law enforcement (LAPD), a local hospital (Mission Community  
5 Hospital), Galpin Motors (a prominent employer in the area), PATH (People  
6 Assisting The Homeless) (an advocacy group focused on housing the homeless),  
7 among others (collectively the "Community"), enthusiastically support the  
8 Project. The Community overwhelmingly supports Icon's plan for the property  
9 and have expressly stated that it would strongly satisfy the area's critical housing  
10 needs with a contemporary and diverse mix of apartments, bring needed jobs and  
11 desirable retail businesses, beautify and safeguard the community, and provide the  
12 overall redevelopment desperately needed in the currently blighted area.

13           10.    Despite the overwhelming and vocal Community support, from  
14 March 2017 through August 2018, the Union Defendants have, at every step of  
15 the Project approval process, tried to induce the area's City Council Office,  
16 Department of City Planning, Los Angeles City Planning Commission ("Planning  
17 Commission"), and the Los Angeles City Council ("City Council") to deny  
18 approval of the Project on false grounds that it does not comply with CEQA. The  
19 Union Defendants' sole purpose in filing CEQA challenges was to delay the  
20 Project and coerce, intimidate, and pressure Icon to agree to use exclusively union  
21 labor, otherwise Icon would suffer significant cost increases to the Project.

22           11.    The Union Defendants were the only individuals or entities to  
23 continuously challenge the Project's compliance with CEQA and to publicly  
24 oppose the Project.

25           12.    During its sham CEQA challenges, the Union Defendants essentially  
26 bribed the Icon Project developers promising that they would withdraw their  
27 CEQA challenges and actively support the Project if Icon would agree to use  
28

1 exclusively union labor on the Project. The Union Defendants made these  
2 promises to Icon even if Icon took no steps whatsoever to address the purported  
3 environmental concerns raised in the Union Defendants' CEQA challenges. The  
4 Union Defendants' CEQA challenges were an absolute sham, through and  
5 through, and had nothing whatsoever to do with protecting the environment.

6 13. Icon continuously made good faith efforts to engage with the Union  
7 Defendants to involve them in the Project in ways that were financially feasible.  
8 Icon was consistent in its message that given the Project's location and the area's  
9 low rents, it could not support the high cost of using exclusively union labor but  
10 that finding certain areas on the Project to use union trades was a possibility once  
11 Icon began working on the construction plans and pricing the Project.

12 14. Icon informed the Union Defendants that the Project's financial  
13 constraints were further demonstrated by the fact that the Project site sat vacant  
14 for almost two decades and experienced a number of failed attempts by other  
15 developers to redevelop it.

16 15. Not once was the environment raised as a legitimate concern by the  
17 Union Defendants to Icon during any discussions or written communications  
18 among the parties about the Project. In fact, early on, during discussions with the  
19 Union Defendants, Icon attempted to address any environmental concerns that the  
20 Union Defendants had. The Union Defendants summarily refused to engage in  
21 discussions about environmental concerns as the Union Defendants were solely  
22 interested in compelling Icon to use exclusively union labor on the Project.  
23 Otherwise stated, the Union Defendants are exploiting the CEQA process itself,  
24 not for any reason related to the environment but for their own financial gain and  
25 as a weapon to coerce Icon, and other developers like Icon, to use nothing but  
26 union labor on major developments in Los Angeles County.

1           16. The irony and hypocrisy of the Union Defendants' sham claims are  
2 noteworthy as a considerable part of what they challenged and objected to are  
3 alleged unsafe conditions on the site that would adversely impact the health and  
4 well-being of those working on the Project, yet while they were publicly opposing  
5 the Project with these bogus environmental and health concerns, privately, they  
6 were pressuring Icon to use exclusively union labor that would guarantee that no  
7 one other than a their own union members would be working on the Project thus  
8 ensuring that their members would be exposed to these alleged "health risks."

9           17. SWRCC refused to negotiate with Icon to find feasible ways to  
10 include their trades and demanded that Icon use exclusively union contractors on  
11 the Project. LIUNA refused to negotiate with Icon over an alternative labor  
12 arrangement, in part, because LIUNA disclosed to ICON that they previously  
13 entered a "most favored nation" agreement with a competing developer whereby  
14 LIUNA agreed with the competing developer not to enter more favorable  
15 agreements with other developers, such as Icon.

16           18. The Union Defendants' challenges so lacked in merit that, in  
17 rejecting one of their numerous challenges to the Project, at the conclusion of the  
18 Planning Commission hearing, Los Angeles Planning Commission President  
19 David Ambroz stated that the Union Defendants "weaponized" CEQA and made  
20 objections that were "just patently false." That blunt public rebuke of the Union  
21 Defendants is exactly what they are doing, which is why Icon has filed this  
22 litigation—to stop the Union Defendants from weaponizing CEQA and filing  
23 frivolous CEQA challenges as a threat to any developer who does not succumb to  
24 the Union Defendants' threats.

25           19. The Union Defendants failed on their appeals in every administrative  
26 level and, on August 29, 2018, the City Council denied the Union Defendants'

1 appeal and unanimously approved the Project, exhausting the administrative  
2 approvals process.

3 20. Failing to force Icon to use exclusively union contractors on the  
4 Project via their spurious administrative challenges, the Union Defendants  
5 nevertheless continued their sham efforts on October 1, 2018 by filing a Petition  
6 for Writ of Mandate based on CEQA in the Superior Court of the State of  
7 California, County of Los Angeles. As they did during the administrative process  
8 before the Planning Commission and City Council, the Union Defendants again  
9 made false statements regarding the Project. And again, the Union Defendants  
10 have only one goal in mind—to delay the Project further, to drive up costs, and to  
11 force Icon to cede to their continued improper and anticompetitive demands or  
12 suffer significant cost overruns, potential termination of contracts with interested  
13 retailers, and the loss of relationships with potential nonunion contractors who  
14 have expressed an interest in working on the Project.

15 21. This is not the first time that the Union Defendants filed sham  
16 oppositions and appeals to the Los Angeles Planning Department, Planning  
17 Commission, and City Council based on false CEQA claims to delay development  
18 of large projects within Los Angeles County for the purpose of coercing,  
19 intimidating, and pressuring developers to surrender to their demands.

20 22. In fact, the Union Defendants' practice of challenging projects under  
21 the guise of CEQA is rampant and has become the status quo in Los Angeles  
22 County on projects that are of substantial enough scale to attract their attention.  
23 The Union Defendants' practice is well known by developers, the community, the  
24 City's council offices, the Department of City Planning, the Planning  
25 Commission, and the City Council. In fact, there is a website called  
26 [www.phonyuniontreehuggers.com](http://www.phonyuniontreehuggers.com) that tracks and documents the unions  
27 opposition to countless public and private sector projects throughout California  
28



1 “on environmental grounds.... with the ulterior motive of extracting something of  
2 economic value from the public or private owner.” As stated in an email from a  
3 planner at the Department of City Planning, Major Projects/Environmental  
4 Analysis unit: “From the experience in the Major Projects unit, the law firm  
5 Lozeau Drury, the Southwest Carpenters union, and/or the LIUNA union submit  
6 comment letters (electronically and written comments) on nearly every single  
7 recent EIR that our unit processes.”

8 23. In fact, the Union Defendants utilize virtually the same “template”  
9 arguments and claims in their comment letters and appeals on every project they  
10 challenge and appeal.

11 24. The Union Defendants regularly conspire with SWAPE, LLC and  
12 Smith Engineering & Management, Inc., two consulting firms that provide  
13 misleading analyses on environmental impacts such as air quality and traffic to  
14 distort the facts and assist the Union Defendants in asserting frivolous challenges  
15 to projects’ Environmental Impact Reports (“EIR”).

16 25. The Union Defendants have a consistent pattern and practice of filing  
17 sham challenges administratively and litigation in the Superior Court of the State  
18 of California against other developers within Los Angeles County in which they  
19 assert similar false claims under CEQA in an effort to delay their projects and  
20 drive up project costs to control the labor market.

21 26. Most developers buckle under the pressure and settle with the Union  
22 Defendants, resulting in disproportionately more developments in higher rent areas  
23 that can support these increased costs to the detriment and at the expense of  
24 underserved and lower income areas such as Panorama City (where the Project  
25 site is located) where developers cannot sustain the higher costs and thus abandon  
26 their projects as they are no longer financially feasible. Unfortunately, the  
27 ultimate losers are the lower income communities that see little in the way of  
28



1 quality community-enhancing development and more blight from boarded-up and  
2 dilapidated abandoned sites.

3 27. Icon brings this action to assert and defend its right to manage,  
4 control, and operate its business affairs free from the Union Defendants'  
5 conspiracy to dominate, monopolize, and control the sale of labor services to  
6 developers of large real estate projects within Los Angeles County thorough its  
7 blatant use of sham litigation to achieve its goals.

8 28. The Union Defendants' anti-competitive and abusive conduct has not  
9 only harmed Icon and other developers, nonunion contractors, the Panorama City  
10 community, and businesses and residents, it has also wasted the time and  
11 resources of public agencies, and now the courts.

12 29. Without intervention from this Court, the Union Defendants will stop  
13 at nothing to prevent the development of the Project and other similar large  
14 projects within Los Angeles County and to eliminate competing nonunion  
15 contractors from the labor market. By engaging in the anti-competitive activities  
16 described in this Complaint, the Union Defendants have violated the Sherman  
17 Act, the Clayton Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, the Racketeer  
18 Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, and the California unfair competition  
19 laws.

### 20 **The Parties**

21 30. Plaintiff Icon is a limited liability company organized in 2015 and  
22 authorized to do business in Los Angeles County. Icon is a real estate planning,  
23 investment, and development company currently developing the Icon at Panorama  
24 Project. William Ruvelson and Eran Fields are co-founders and principals of Icon.

25 31. Defendant SWRCC is a labor organization within the meaning of the  
26 Labor Act (29 U.S.C. § 151 *et seq.*). SWRCC represents over 50,000 members in  
27 Southern California, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, New Mexico, and Colorado.

1           32. Alexis Olbrei is the Chief of Staff of the SWRCC.

2           33. Pete Rodriguez is the President/COO of the SWRCC.

3           34. Dan Langford is the Executive Secretary – Treasurer/CEO of the  
4 SWRCC.

5           35. Ron Diamant is a Special Representative of the SWRCC.

6           36. SWRCC, Olbrei, Rodriguez, Langford, and Diamant transact  
7 business in this jurisdiction with their principal place of business at 533 S.  
8 Fremont Ave, Los Angeles, California 90071.

9           37. At all relevant times, Olbrei, Rodriguez, Langford, and Diamant have  
10 been agents of SWRCC and are authorized to act for and on behalf of SWRCC.

11           38. Defendant LIUNA is a labor organization within the meaning of the  
12 Labor Act (29 U.S.C. § 151 *et seq.*).

13           39. Angel Olvera is an organizer with LIUNA.

14           40. Sergio Rascon is the Business Manager of LIUNA.

15           41. Ernesto Pantoja is a Special Projects Field Agent of LIUNA.

16           42. LIUNA, Olvera, Rascon, and Pantoja transact business in this  
17 jurisdiction with their principal place of business at 2005 W. Pico Blvd, 2nd  
18 Floor, Los Angeles, California 90006.

19           43. At all relevant times, Olvera, Rascon, and Pantoja have been agents  
20 of LIUNA and are authorized to act for and on behalf of LIUNA.

21           44. The Union Defendants were at all relevant times the agents,  
22 principals, partners, co-conspirators, and/or co-venturers of each other, and each  
23 of them acted within the course, scope, and authority of those relationships. As a  
24 result, the Union Defendants are jointly and severally liable for the acts alleged in  
25 this Complaint.

45. Upon information and belief, SWAPE, LLC is a California limited liability company with an office and place of business located at 2656 29th Street, Suite 201, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

46. SWAPE is an environmental consulting firm that conducts business within Los Angeles County, California. SWAPE provides consulting services to the Union Defendants directly or through its legal counsel.

47. The Union Defendants engaged the services of SWAPE in connection with their efforts to monopolize the labor market as described herein.

48. Upon information and belief, Smith Engineering & Management, Inc. (“SEM”) is a California corporation with an office and place of business located at 5311 Lowry Rd, Union City, CA 94587.

49. SEM is a traffic and civil consulting firm that conducts business within Los Angeles County, California.

50. SEM provides consulting services to the Union Defendants directly or through its legal counsel.

51. The Union Defendants engaged the services of SEM in connection with their efforts to monopolize the labor market as described herein.

52. Plaintiff is unaware of the true names or capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise, of Defendants sued herein as DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, and therefore sue these Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will seek leave of the Court to amend this pleading to set forth the true names and capacities of said Doe Defendants when the same are ascertained. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis allege, that each of the fictitiously named Defendants is responsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged, or was acting in concert with, and with the permission, approval, and authorization of, the specifically named Defendants.

## **Factual Allegations**

### **I. Icon proposes a transformative redevelopment project that the local community overwhelmingly supports.**

53. Retail company Montgomery Ward previously owned and operated a large store at 14665 Roscoe Boulevard in Panorama City, California. Montgomery Ward closed its business in 2001. The building at Roscoe Boulevard has sat vacant since 2001, and the area has experienced homeless encampments, gang activity, graffiti, and other criminal activities.

54. In 2016, Icon paid \$18 million for the nearly nine-acre parcel on Roscoe Boulevard as the first step in its plan to transform the lot previously occupied by Montgomery Ward.

55. On the abandoned site, Icon plans to construct 623 residential apartments, a 17,000 square foot public park, and 60,000 square feet of commercial space to potentially include pedestrian active retail at an estimated cost of \$150 million to Icon.

56. The proposed development is named the “The Icon Panorama” and has been enthusiastically greeted by the City and the Community.

57. Neighborhood residents and groups have described the Project as a job-creator; “provid[ing] much needed housing”; “exactly what we need”; and “a critical element for the area’s renewal.”

58. For example, Jack Waizenegger, a 30 year resident of Panorama City, wrote in a letter of support for the Project: “Development of the project, The ICON at Panorama City, will be the catalyst to begin restoration of our community. In addition, it will clean up the blight left from the defunct Montgomery Ward ruins, create good jobs during and after construction, provide much needed housing, add new desirable shopping and entertainment, complement the future Metro line along Van Nuys Boulevard, attract more redevelopment, and become a centerpiece which all of our community can be

1 proud of. I do not know of a single neighbor or business owner who objects,  
2 instead they are all eager and excited to see this project arrive.”

3         59. Stephanie Cervantes, a 20 year resident of Panorama City wrote in  
4 her letter of support: “As you know, we have the densest residential population of  
5 any community in the valley, yet our housing is generally older and run down. We  
6 need new and beautiful apartments so that instead of moving out of Panorama  
7 City to other nicer neighborhoods, we stay here in the same community where we  
8 were born and where our parents and grandparents live. The residents here are  
9 good hard-working folks who want to give our children a better quality of life  
10 than we had. Moving into another community has been the answer for so many,  
11 but as long-time Panorama City residents move out, the community loses its soul.  
12 If there was a better housing alternative here in the neighborhood, more of us  
13 would stay. All of us go elsewhere to shop because our only shopping center (the  
14 Panorama Mall) is old and lacks any of the new and interesting elements that  
15 everyone else takes for granted when they shop at the gorgeous newer centers in  
16 Burbank, Woodland Hills or Universal City. Icon Panorama will give us a high-  
17 quality shopping experience with a beautiful open park with plenty of parking.  
18 We need this development to happen. Los Angeles needs for this development to  
19 happen.”

20         60. Local business owners have “applaud[ed] the developers and their  
21 efforts to transform the Panorama City neighborhood.” Jeff Skobin, VP of  
22 Business Operations for Galpin Motors, one of the area’s largest employers, wrote  
23 in Galpin’s letter of support: “While the rest of Los Angeles has enjoyed  
24 tremendous development and economic boom, Panorama City has continued to  
25 languish. There have been two failed attempts in the past to revitalize the site,  
26 both of which were headed by out of state developers. This development is  
27 absolutely critical for the revitalization of Panorama City and the surrounding  
28

1 communities. We desperately need this dynamic mixed-use project with its  
2 proposed community park that will become the social hub of our community. We  
3 deserve such a quality project.”

4 61. Saul Mejia, President of the Panorama City Chamber of Commerce  
5 wrote in the Chamber’s letter of support: “After driving around other parts of Los  
6 Angeles such as North Hollywood and Koreatown and seeing their beautiful new  
7 developments, it is disappointing to return to Panorama City and not see the same.  
8 Our community was once known as the heart of the San Fernando Valley. With  
9 this new project and those that will follow it, we will be beating strong once  
10 again. We applaud The Icon Company for coming into an area that was  
11 considered unworthy of development until recently.”

12 62. Gregory Wilkinson, Chair of the Panorama City Neighborhood  
13 Council wrote in the Council’s letter of support: “Further, the lost economic  
14 activities for having such a large part of our business district has been a real loss  
15 to our residences and other local businesses. We are tired of seeing the Site being  
16 left to waste away and our community suffer as a result.”

17 63. Michel Moore, Chief of Police for the Los Angeles Police  
18 Department noted that the vacant site “has been occupied by the  
19 homeless/transients” and “has fallen victim to vandalism and has been  
20 burglarized.” Chief Moore emphasized, “This location would be ideal as a  
21 redevelopment project. A new development would create jobs and benefit the  
22 local economy. It is a densely populated area and in desperate need of  
23 redevelopment. The developer, ICON, has taken on this challenge and proposed a  
24 project which we feel not only fits the community but benefits the city as well.”

25 64. Tescia Uribe, Chief Program Officer for PATH Housing Partnerships  
26 Program, whose mission is to end homelessness for individuals, families, and  
27  
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1 communities, applauded “[t]he fact that they are building desperately needed  
2 housing in a community that has been largely ignored by development.”

3 65. James K. Theiring, Chief Executive Officer of Mission Community  
4 Hospital located in Panorama City that employs over 700 workers wrote: “As  
5 active participants in our community, we have not seen any significant business  
6 growth in recent years and struggle to find close partnerships. In this regard, we  
7 believe that the development of Icon Panorama will bring needed jobs, businesses  
8 and contemporary housing into the community, as well as modern attractions for  
9 residents of Panorama City and neighboring towns.”

10 **II. The Union Defendants raised sham challenges to the Icon Project at**  
11 **every step of the CEQA administrative process.**

12 66. CEQA sets forth a process for evaluating and publicly disclosing the  
13 environmental impacts of a proposed project.

14 67. For projects subject to CEQA, the agency prepares an initial study of  
15 the project’s impact on the environment.

16 68. If necessary, the lead agency then sends a Notice of Preparation to  
17 inform the public that it will prepare an EIR for a project. The lead agency  
18 provides at least 30 days to comment on the Notice of Preparation. The lead  
19 agency may also hold meetings with experts and the public during this period.

20 69. The lead agency then prepares a draft EIR (“DEIR”) and provides the  
21 public an opportunity to comment on the draft. The lead agency can also issue  
22 revised DEIRs. The lead agency then prepares a final EIR (“FEIR”) and responds  
23 to the comments on the DEIR. The agency then holds public hearings and makes  
24 a decision on the project.

25 70. In Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Advisory Agency initially approves  
26 the project. An interested party can appeal that decision to the Los Angeles  
27 Planning Commission, then to the Planning and Land Use Management  
28 Committee. If the Planning and Land Use Committee approves the project, an



1 interested party can appeal the decision to the City Council. Once an interested  
2 party has exhausted all administrative remedies, it can appeal the approval of the  
3 project by filing a Petition for a Writ of Mandate in California Superior Court.

4 71. On April 6, 2017, the Department of City Planning unanimously  
5 approved Icon's DEIR for the Panorama Project.

6 72. On May 22, 2017, the Union Defendants sent to the Department of  
7 City Planning, via e-mail and U.S. mail, comments challenging the DEIR for the  
8 Project.

9 73. The May 22, 2017 letter falsely stated that the DEIR failed to analyze  
10 the soil for hazardous chemicals at the Project site. In fact, the Union Defendants  
11 had a copy of the DEIR and knew that it analyzed the soil for hazardous  
12 chemicals at the Project site.

13 74. On August 31, 2017, the Department of City Planning recirculated a  
14 revised DEIR that addressed comment letters from City of Los Angeles's  
15 Building Departments, neighborhood stakeholders, and the Union Defendants.

16 75. On February 23, 2018, the Department of City Planning issued the  
17 FEIR for the Project.

18 76. On March 19, 2018, the day before the first public hearing on the  
19 Project, the Union Defendants sent another letter via e-mail challenging the FEIR.  
20 The letter urged the Department of City Planning to deny environmental  
21 certification of the Project.

22 77. The March 19, 2018 letter falsely stated that the City of Los Angeles  
23 Fire Department ("LAFD") found that fire protection for the Project would be  
24 inadequate. The Union Defendants knew that the LAFD found that the fire  
25 protection for the Project would be adequate if the Project made certain changes  
26 that are standard practice.

1           78. The March 19, 2018 letter also falsely stated that the FEIR refused to  
2 analyze the impact the project would have on fire protection. In fact, the Union  
3 Defendants knew that the FEIR analyzed the impact the Project would have on  
4 fire protection.

5           79. On March 20, 2018, at the first public hearing on the Project before  
6 the Los Angeles Advisory Agency, the Union Defendants opposed the Project and  
7 repeated the false statements about the Project contained in the March 19, 2018  
8 letter. The Advisory Agency unanimously approved the Project the same day.

9           80. The Union Defendants appealed the Advisory Agency's decision to  
10 the Los Angeles Planning Commission.

11           81. On April 23, 2018, the Union Defendants sent another letter via e-  
12 mail and overnight mail to the Planning Commission challenging the Project.

13           82. The Union Defendants continued with their sham challenges by  
14 falsely claiming that the revised Project "has never been analyzed in any CEQA  
15 document," and "will dramatically increase almost all of the Project's  
16 environmental impacts," and that, because the revised Project has 48% more  
17 residential units than the original Project, it will have 48% greater impacts,  
18 conveniently ignoring that the overall scope of the revised Project was actually  
19 reduced by decreasing the commercial floor area proposed under the original  
20 Project from 200,000 to 60,000 square feet, a reduction of 70% which  
21 significantly reduced the Project's overall environmental impacts. In fact, the  
22 FEIR undertakes a thorough analysis to conclude that such impacts would be  
23 reduced from those of the original Project.

24           83. The Union Defendants, which purport to be advocating on behalf of  
25 environmental protection, seek to indict the Department of City Planning for  
26 advancing the purposes of CEQA by developing a less impactful project in  
27

1 response to comments on the DEIR and analyzing that project as a new alternative  
2 in the FEIR.

3 84. The Union Defendants also falsely claimed that the Department of  
4 City Planning is required to adopt a different reduced project, which the EIR  
5 identified as the environmentally superior alternative. In certifying the EIR, the  
6 Advisory Agency correctly found this alternative to be infeasible, as it would not  
7 satisfy the Project's underlying purpose and key objectives to the same degree. In  
8 particular, it would not support regional housing goals and transit-oriented  
9 development or provide the critical mass and mix of uses necessary to  
10 successfully activate the area.

11 85. Inexplicably, the April 23, 2018 letter also falsely stated that the  
12 DEIR "states clearly that the Project proposal is for a *maximum* of 422 residential  
13 units." (Emphasis added.) In fact, the Union Defendants had a copy of the DEIR  
14 and knew or should have known that it did not state that the Project proposal is for  
15 a maximum of 422 residential units.

16 86. On April 26, 2018, the Planning Commission unanimously approved  
17 the Project over the Union Defendants' objections.

18 87. At the April 26, 2018 hearing, Planning Commission President David  
19 Ambroz chided the Union Defendants' abuse of process and sham litigation  
20 tactics, stating:

21 I would like to say a few things. I feel as though *the*  
22 *[Union Defendants'] appeal was specious at best* and in  
23 my lawyer days I would say I would deny it with  
24 prejudice. I think *CEQA has been weaponized* and it's a  
25 shame that it is so. Things and assertions like "soil  
26 wasn't studied and would harm people" *is just patently*  
27 *false*. And the staff provided information to this  
28 commission that Phase 1 and Phase 2 studies were done  
and *that is in the record and available to the appellant*  
and *I am just unclear why someone would make an*  
*assertion that is just patently false*. I am dismayed that I  
have rarely seen CEQA used to actually protect the  
environment. It seems here and I would be curious to  
know, and I am not asking, that this seems to be a labor

1 question, are you going to use union labor or not. And  
2 while that is not our decision to make it is a shame that  
3 we are now seeing CEQA used as a tool to both delay  
4 community redevelopment and potentially not harm by  
5 not improving the environment so dismaying and a trend  
6 that I do not see stopping anytime soon without  
7 significant reform.

8 88. On May 25, 2018, the Union Defendants again appealed the decision  
9 to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee.

10 89. On August 21, 2018, the Planning and Land Use Management  
11 Committee unanimously approved the Project.

12 90. The Union Defendants again appealed the decision to the Los  
13 Angeles City Council.

14 91. Before the City Council hearing on the Project, the SWRCC met  
15 with the City Council's office to further pressure them to oppose the Project.

16 92. On August 29, 2018, the City Council unanimously approved the  
17 Project.

18 93. On September 28, 2018, following the approval of the Project,  
19 SWRCC Chief of Staff Olbrei met with Jim Dantona, Chief of Staff of the area's  
20 City Council Office to try to discuss a labor agreement on the Project. According  
21 to Ackley Padilla, the area's City Council Office's Deputy Chief of Staff, Olbrei  
22 left the meeting amenable to the idea of providing SWRCC the right to match  
23 Icon's other subcontractors' pricing. On October 1, 2018, the final day to appeal  
24 the City Council's decision, the Union Defendants filed their suit as they were  
25 unable to coerce and force Icon to pledge in advance that it would use exclusively  
26 union contractors on the Project.

27 94. Throughout the entire administrative process, the Union Defendants  
28 were the *only* individuals or entities to continuously challenge the Project's  
compliance with CEQA and publicly oppose the Project. In fact, as detailed  
herein, the Project received overwhelming support from the City and Community.

1           95. Icon spent significant time and money responding to the Union  
2 Defendants' sham CEQA challenges at the administrative stage.

3 **III. At the same time the Union Defendants pursued their sham CEQA**  
4 **challenges, the Union Defendants demanded that Icon agree to use**  
5 **exclusively union labor on its Project.**

6           96. To facilitate their attempt to assert monopolistic control of the sale of  
7 labor services to developers of large projects in Los Angeles County, the Union  
8 Defendants have coerced or attempted to coerce developers like Icon to use  
9 exclusively union contractors.

10           97. In mid-April 2017, after the Department of City Planning released  
11 the DEIR but before the Unions Defendants filed their first opposition, Ron  
12 Diamant, Special Representative for SWRCC, contacted Icon Principal Ruvelson  
13 and told him that he had learned about the Project and wanted to talk with him  
14 about having Icon use exclusively union contractors on the Project.

15           98. Ruvelson explained that Icon was willing to use both union and  
16 nonunion contractors on the Project, and that Icon would implement a competitive  
17 bidding process to select contractors for the Project to ensure that it met its  
18 budgets.

19           99. Unbeknownst to Icon, at the same time that Diamant sought to  
20 discuss Icon's labor needs, the Union Defendants were preparing their sham  
21 CEQA challenges as described above.

22           100. After Icon received the Union Defendants' May 22, 2017 challenge  
23 to the Project, Ruvelson emailed Diamant to express confusion about the Union  
24 Defendants' tactics, stating: "Ron, Please be in touch about this. I'm confused."

25           101. Diamant told Ruvelson that if Icon agreed to use exclusively union  
26 contractors on the Project, the Union Defendants would drop their CEQA  
27 challenge to the Project. At no time did Diamant ever tell Ruvelson that Icon also  
28

1 needed to address any of the purported environmental issues contained in the  
2 Unions' CEQA challenge.

3 102. On June 8, 2017, Ruvelson met with Diamant and Olbrei at  
4 SWRCC's training facility in Sylmar, CA.

5 103. At the June 8 meeting, Diamant and Olbrei continued to pressure  
6 Ruvelson to use exclusively union contractors for the Project.

7 104. The next day, Diamant emailed Ruvelson a list of four "Union  
8 General Contractors" that Icon should use for the Project: Morley Builders, Inc.,  
9 W.M. Klorman Construction Corporation, Charles Pankow Builders, Ltd., and  
10 Bomel Construction Company. Diamant stated that "There's more. . . . I started  
11 with these 4 and I will send out the complete list later."

12 105. Over the next few months, the administrative process and the Union  
13 Defendants' sham CEQA challenges continued.

14 106. On October 16, 2017, Icon principal Eran Fields contacted Diamant  
15 to express his frustration with the Union Defendants' continuing challenges to the  
16 Project in an effort to force Icon to use exclusively union contractors. Fields  
17 reiterated that Icon was willing to use union contractors, as well as nonunion  
18 contractors, through a competitive bidding process. Fields stressed to Diamant  
19 that due to the Project's location and projected rents, that it was infeasible for Icon  
20 to pledge in advance to use exclusively union contractors because of the higher  
21 labor costs but that Icon would work with the Union Defendants in good faith to  
22 include them in certain areas of the Project that Icon could afford.

23 107. That same day, Diamant emailed Fields and stated, "I have some  
24 influence with these folks, [*i.e.*, the Unions]," and that they could work out a deal.

25 108. On March 14, 2018, one week before the first public hearing on the  
26 Project, Diamant sent a text message to Fields asking to meet before the hearing  
27 and implying that the Union Defendants would drop their CEQA challenges only  
28

1 if Icon agreed to use exclusively union contractors. In response to Fields  
2 questioning why he wanted to meet, Diamant stated: "I know the road you need to  
3 be on the get the job to move forward," and in response to Fields' response of  
4 "Sorry, no idea what that means. You mean opposition from union if we don't?"  
5 Diamant responded: "I know that there's been some of that from a few, including  
6 the carpenters."

7 109. In response, Fields texted the following: "As I mentioned to you in  
8 the past, we won't be coerced into using union labor due to threats of opposition  
9 but are willing to explore ways to include union labor on this job if feasible.  
10 Meeting before our hearing should have no bearing on that."

11 110. Diamant immediately responded: "I'm just making suggestions on  
12 how to navigate through the woods. If you hire good contractors that participate in  
13 apprenticeship programs are tikkun olamins, it makes everyone smile."<sup>1</sup>

14 111. Fields responded: "Thanks Ron but it's very simple for us. We do  
15 our best and always act honorably and honestly. If we can find a way to work  
16 together that would be great. If we can't then it won't be for lack of trying."

17 **IV. LIUNA agreed to give "Favored Nation" status to another Los Angeles**  
18 **County apartment developer.**

19 112. G.H. Palmer, Inc. ("G.H. Palmer") is a real estate developer with  
20 apartment projects in Los Angeles County. G.H. Palmer claims to own more than  
21 11,000 apartment units in Southern California.

22 113. Upon information and belief, LIUNA agreed with G.H. Palmer to  
23 grant G.H. Palmer "Favored Nation" status in its project labor agreements,  
24 ensuring that no other developer could obtain a more competitive agreement than  
25 the Union Defendants had with G.H. Palmer.

26  
27 <sup>1</sup> Tikkun Olam is a concept in Judaism interpreted as an aspiration to behave and  
28 act constructively and beneficially.



1 114. Upon information and belief, LIUNA agreed with G.H. Palmer that  
2 they would never agree to allow a developer to use nonunion labor on a project.  
3 Per the Favored Nation agreement with G.H. Palmer, LIUNA agreed to demand  
4 use of exclusively union labor on all projects.

5 **V. The Union Defendants offered to drop their sham CEQA litigation and**  
6 **allow the Project to timely proceed in exchange for exclusivity.**

7 115. Despite the Union Defendants' sham CEQ challenges (as described  
8 above), Icon attempted to discuss possible ways to work together with the Union  
9 Defendants on the Project that did not require Icon to pledge in advance to use  
10 exclusively union labor, but met Icon's labor budget needs.

11 116. On May 2, 2018, Olbrei and Rodriguez from SWRCC and Pantoja  
12 and Rascon from LIUNA had a breakfast meeting with Ruvelson and Fields to  
13 discuss the Project and how to possibly work together. During the approximately  
14 two-hour meeting, Icon again explained that given the Project's location and the  
15 area's low rents, it could not support the higher cost of using exclusively union  
16 contractors, but that it would work with the Union Defendants to try to find areas  
17 in the Project to include their trades. Not once was the environment raised as a  
18 legitimate concern by the Union Defendants during the meeting. Icon left the  
19 meeting cautiously optimistic as the Union Defendants represented that it would  
20 be amenable to entering into a letter of intent between the parties that would  
21 require Icon to make good faith efforts to find ways to include the Union  
22 Defendants on the Project.

23 117. On May 24, 2018, one day before the Union Defendants filed yet  
24 another appeal of the Project's approval, Olbrei of SWRCC emailed Fields,  
25 stating that if Icon would sign a Letter of Understanding ("LOU") promising to  
26 use exclusively union contractors, in exchange the Union Defendants would  
27 withdraw its CEQA challenges without Icon doing anything to address the  
28 purported environmental issues. Specifically, the LOU promised that:

the Carpenters' Union *will promptly express its support for the Project before governmental bodies and/or community organizations in connection with any and all required government approvals*. Such expression of support may include, among other things, sending letters of support to appropriate entities; appearing in support at public hearings and/or community hearings; contacting the mayor and/or other elected or appointed officials to express support; and generally working together with the Owner/Construction Manager to obtain full entitlements and approvals for the Project to proceed. (Emphasis added.)

118. Fields responded to Olbrei's email: "Thanks for the LOU. As I'm sure you're aware, your proposed language is a far cry from what we discussed at breakfast a few weeks ago. As we mentioned to you, this project can only support a certain budget given its location and the project's projected rents. As a result, we cannot commit to anyone unless the numbers work. Nothing will change that. What we're willing to do is make a good faith effort to try to find ways to work with the Carpenters Union and for that matter, anyone, that can help us build this project at a feasible budget. That being said, please find attached redlined LOU that reflects our discussion and consistent position."

119. The next day, on May 25, Pantoja of LIUNA wrote to Fields that contrary to what they discussed at their breakfast meeting, they could not agree to anything other than the exclusivity arrangement in the proposed Letter of Commitment ["LOC"] because "of the Favored Nation Clause as it relates to our agreement with G.H. Palmer." Pantoja wrote that LIUNA "couldn't enter into anything different then [*sic*] we have with G.H. Palmer." Like SWRCC's LOU, in exchange to agreeing to use exclusive union under the LOC, LIUNA promised via its LOC:

17. The Union on its own behalf and/or through their participating individuals, members, labor organizations, unions, officers, representatives, business managers, agents, consultants, independent contractors (including any agents, persons or entities who assisted with preparation of comment letters and related appendices) or attorneys (or any other person action on their behalf or otherwise under the direction or control), or any of them (collectively 'Affiliated Parties') *will not*

*participate in any meetings or hearings to challenge, oppose, contest, take adverse actions or bring suit or file any claim, complaint or opposition in any forum or before any agency, body, court or other tribunal, whether administratively, quasi-judicially, judicially or otherwise regarding a Residential/Commercial Podium Project covered by this Agreement.* (Emphasis Added.)

a. Furthermore, on behalf of itself and its Affiliated Parties, *Union agrees that it will not assist, support, encourage or cooperate with any Affiliated Parties, or any other person or entity of any kind who challenges, opposes, contests, intervenes, takes adverse action or bring suit or files any claim, complaint or opposition in any forum or before any agency, body, court or other tribunal, whether administratively, quasi-judicially, judicially or otherwise, regarding a Residential/Commercial Podium Project and will take all lawful and good faith steps it deems necessary to ensure that all of its Affiliated Parties abide by the terms in the preceding paragraph and this Agreement.* (Emphasis added.)

**VI. When Icon did not cede to the Union Defendants' exclusivity demands, the Union Defendants brought their sham litigation to state court.**

120. Having failed in their efforts to coerce, intimidate, extort and pressure Icon to use exclusively union contractors on the Project through its abuse of the administrative process from May 2017 through August 2018, the Union Defendants continued to press their sham CEQA challenges to delay the Project and drive up its costs by filing a Petition for Writ of Mandate in the Superior Court of the State of California County of Los Angeles. The Petition again asserted violations of CEQA and requested that the Court set aside the Project approvals.

121. The same day, SWRCC Senior Field Representative Dan Langford told Fields during a phone conversation that the Union Defendants had specifically budgeted money for their CEQA litigation scheme. Langford made it clear that the Union Defendants did not truly believe in the substance of their CEQA claims by telling Fields that if the Union Defendants did not challenge Icon's Project they would simply challenge another developer's project. Langford

1 further made clear that the Union Defendants' true goal was to delay the Project  
2 and drive up costs.

3 122. Immediately following Fields' discussion with Langford, Fields  
4 texted Ron Diament from SWRCC the following: "I spoke with Dan and he  
5 emphatically said that you want the full labor agreement or you'll sue. He  
6 suggested that we'd be better off paying for it now by hiring you versus getting  
7 the project delayed and the impacts it would cause. He boasted that they have the  
8 budget for it so it won't affect you but will significantly affect us."

9 123. Icon has continued to discuss with the SWRCC and the LIUNA the  
10 importance of the Project to the community and its willingness to use union  
11 contractors as well as nonunion contractors through a competitive bidding  
12 process, but the Union Defendants continue to abuse the CEQA process to force  
13 Icon to cede to their demands.

14 **VII. The Union Defendants have a pattern and practice of filing sham**  
15 **CEQA litigation to delay large development projects within Los**  
16 **Angeles County (as well in other California counties).**

17 124. Upon information and belief, the Union Defendants maintain  
18 databases that track general contractors, subcontractors, permit applications, as  
19 well as when cities release draft Mitigated Negative Declarations (environmental  
20 reports that are less comprehensive than EIRs) and EIRs for major construction  
21 projects. The Union Defendants use the databases to decide which contractors to  
22 target for CEQA litigation based on the size and scope of the project, without  
23 regard to the merits of the CEQA claims.

24 125. Upon information and belief, the Union Defendants used those  
25 databases to identify the Icon Panorama Project as a target for its scheme.

26 126. This is not the first time that the Union Defendants filed sham  
27 oppositions and appeals based on false CEQA claims to delay development  
28 projects within Los Angeles County, California for the sole purpose of coercing,

1 intimidating, extorting, and pressuring developers to surrender to their demands.  
 2 The Union Defendants use the CEQA process as a means to secure control of the  
 3 labor market and dictate the cost of labor for all construction projects in the  
 4 County.

5 127. As an example, upon information and belief, LIUNA and/or SWRCC  
 6 are currently utilizing the same sham challenges under the guise of alleging  
 7 CEQA-based claims on the following large mixed use projects in Los Angeles  
 8 County representing millions of square feet of residential and commercial space  
 9 that include thousands of units and billions of dollars of development at a time  
 10 when Los Angeles is experiencing a significant housing shortage that has resulted  
 11 in a homeless crisis:

- 12 - 6901 West Santa Monica Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA
- 13 - 222 West Second Street, Los Angeles, CA
- 14 - 129-135 West College Street, Los Angeles, CA
- 15 - 1240-1260 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA
- 16 - 1107-1121 North Mansfield Avenue, and 1106-1126 North Orange Drive,  
 17 Los Angeles, CA
- 18 - 520-532 South Mateo Street, Los Angeles, CA
- 19 - 676 South Mateo Street, Los Angeles, CA
- 20 - 1001 Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, CA
- 21 - 1033-1057 South Olive Street, Los Angeles, CA
- 22 - 1375 St. Andrews Place, Los Angeles, CA
- 23 - 1030-1380 North Broadway and 1251 North Spring Street, Los Angeles,  
 24 CA
- 25 - 1000-1022 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA and 220 and 226 West  
 26 Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, CA
- 27 - 1000 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA

**FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**Attempted Monopolization in Violation of**  
**Section 2 of the Sherman Act**

128. Paragraphs 1 through 127 are re-alleged and reincorporated herein.

129. The sham and baseless oppositions to construction permit applications on environmental or regulatory grounds is a strategy that labor organizations like the Union Defendants in this case use to eliminate competing nonunion contractors from the labor market. Developers who cannot pledge to use exclusively union labor find their projects blocked entirely or their costs increased significantly if their permits are challenged. Thus, developers like Icon suffer injury no matter which option they choose—higher labor costs if they pledge to use only union labor on their projects, or higher costs in delays of their projects if they do not succumb to the Union Defendants’ tactics and defend against the sham litigation and proceedings that the Union Defendants pursue both administratively and in the courts.

130. Through such illegal conduct, the Union Defendants seek to obtain monopoly power over the sale of labor services to developers (like Icon) of large real estate projects within Los Angeles County, California (the “Relevant Market”). Such large real estate projects are generally those that fall within the purview of the Department of City Planning’s “Major Projects Unit,” which enables the Department to conduct a more thorough and focused analysis of large, complex projects that have the potential to generate the most significant effects on the City’s infrastructure, local economy, and environment.

131. Unions, Icon, other project owners/construction contractors which use nonunion labor, other project owners/construction contractors which use union labor only, and the community at large recognize the existence of the Relevant Market as an area of effective competition for labor services due to the

1 high demand and desirability of project development and construction such as  
2 Icon's Panorama Project.

3 132. The Union Defendants compete against nonunion contractors in the  
4 Relevant Market.

5 133. The Union Defendants have sought to exercise control and monopoly  
6 power over the Relevant Market by engaging in predatory, unlawful, fraudulent  
7 and/or other anti-competitive business practices, including but not limited to  
8 initiating or threatening to initiate sham and objectively baseless CEQA-based  
9 protests and litigation that will prevent or delay the development of construction  
10 (including the Project) within the Relevant Market. Such baseless protests and  
11 lawsuits, which the Union Defendants file over and over again, are the means by  
12 which they conceal their attempts to control/lower the supply of labor and drive  
13 up the cost of using nonunion labor such that nonunion contractors are excluded  
14 from the Relevant Market, interfering directly with Icon's relationships with, and  
15 right to open competitive bidding to, construction contractors that use nonunion  
16 labor.

17 134. The Union Defendants' lawsuits and threats of lawsuits represent a  
18 significant barrier to entry to the Relevant Market for any price-competitive  
19 nonunion contractor that seeks to obtain work from developers like Icon. By  
20 raising the aggregate wage rate, the Union Defendants' anti-competitive activities  
21 also drive up the cost of projects because only union labor can be used, allowing  
22 the Union Defendants to maintain their market power in such downstream  
23 markets. As a result of the Unions' illegal actions, market labor prices will rise to  
24 the level set by the Union Defendants when nonunion contractors are driven out  
25 of the market.

26 135. The Union Defendants' acts have prevented or suppressed  
27 competition, and continue to prevent or suppress competition, and these acts have  
28



1 permitted the Union Defendants to seek a dominant and monopolistic market  
2 position and wage control in violation of Section 2 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C.  
3 § 2.

4 136. The Union Defendants have made clear their intent to prevent  
5 development of any additional project in the Relevant Market on which union  
6 labor is not used. Their objective is to obtain a monopoly by increasing and  
7 controlling wage rates and/or destroying competition in the Relevant Market and  
8 to obtain and maintain a dominant market position.

9 137. Competition in the Relevant Market has suffered, and will continue  
10 to suffer, regardless of whether monopoly power is attained because through their  
11 anti-competitive activities, the Union Defendants will obtain the unilateral power  
12 to set wage rates in the Relevant Market.

13 138. The Union Defendants have willfully sought to acquire and maintain  
14 a monopoly in the Relevant Market through predatory, unlawful, fraudulent  
15 and/or other anti-competitive business practices. The Union Defendants' intent to  
16 monopolize can be inferred from the nature of their illegal conduct.

17 139. The Union Defendants' intent, power, and resources create a  
18 dangerous probability that they will succeed in monopolizing the Relevant  
19 Market, causing the significant anticompetitive consequences described above.

20 140. The Union Defendants' illegal conduct is not exempted from the  
21 Sherman Act or any other anti-trust law because they have sought to act in concert  
22 with project-owners like Icon, construction contractors, and consulting companies  
23 (SWAPE and SEM) – all non-labor groups – to achieve a monopoly in the  
24 Relevant Market and have sought to obtain that monopoly through illegitimate  
25 means and for illegitimate purposes. In particular, if developers (like Icon) or their  
26 contractors/designated agents do not succumb to the Union Defendants' demands  
27 that they use exclusively union labor on their construction projects, the Union  
28

1 Defendants continue to assert their sham and objectively baseless protests and  
2 litigation, which have nothing to do with the legitimate goals of a union or the  
3 purpose of labor law protections.

4 141. Icon is a “person” entitled to sue under 15 U.S.C. § 15 because it has  
5 been injured as a direct result of the Union Defendants’ antitrust violations  
6 described herein. Icon’s injury was caused by a substantial reduction in the  
7 available supply of labor in the Relevant Market as a result of the Union  
8 Defendants’ illegal conduct, which was intended to, and did in fact, have an  
9 anticompetitive effect beyond the costly delays in Icon’s Project and the other  
10 damages it has suffered. Specifically, the Union Defendants’ illegal conduct has  
11 removed nonunion labor from the Relevant Market: either developers (i) succumb  
12 and pledge to use exclusively union labor, substantially driving up their labor  
13 costs, or (ii) decline such a pledge, suffer delays to their projects caused by the  
14 Union Defendants’ sham and baseless CEQA litigation, and incur substantial  
15 litigation costs in defending against that litigation.

16 142. As a direct and proximate result of the Union Defendants’ above-  
17 described anti-competitive activities, Icon has suffered business injuries and/or  
18 loss of property by, among other things, threats to their project, loss of goodwill,  
19 significant lost profits, increase in interest rates, costs increases due to increases in  
20 the minimum wage, possible retail lease losses, costs of suit and attorneys’ fees, a  
21 loss of revenue that will impact prices paid by consumers of the Project and other  
22 projects that project-owners seek, or will seek, to develop, and significant cost  
23 overruns due to delays in construction and carrying costs of those projects.

24 143. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts herein alleged, Icon has  
25 been damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.



1 described herein. Icon's injury was caused by a substantial reduction in the  
2 available supply of labor in the Relevant Market as a result of the Union  
3 Defendants' illegal conduct, which was intended to, and did in fact, have an  
4 anticompetitive effect beyond the costly delays in Icon's Project and the other  
5 damages it has suffered. Specifically, the Union Defendants' illegal conduct has  
6 removed nonunion labor from the Relevant Market: either developers (i) succumb  
7 and pledge to use exclusively union labor, substantially driving up their labor  
8 costs, or (ii) decline such a pledge, suffer delays to their projects caused by the  
9 Union Defendants' sham and baseless CEQA litigation, and incur substantial  
10 litigation costs in defending against that litigation.

11 151. As a direct and proximate result of the Union Defendants conspiracy  
12 to engage in anti-competitive activities in violation of the Sherman Act, Icon has  
13 suffered business injuries and/or loss of property by, among other things, threats  
14 to their projects, loss of goodwill, significant lost profits, costs of suit and  
15 attorneys' fees, a loss of revenue that will impact prices paid by consumers for  
16 the Project and other projects Icon and other owners seek to develop, and  
17 significant cost overruns due to delays in construction of those projects.

18 152. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts herein alleged, Icon has  
19 been damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

20 153. Icon has suffered, and will continue to suffer, irreparable harm,  
21 entitling Icon to injunctive relief, if the Union Defendants are not enjoined from  
22 engaging in their anti-competitive conduct.

### 23 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### 24 **Directing a "Group Boycott" in Violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act**

25 154. Paragraphs 1 through 153 are re-alleged and reincorporated herein.

26 155. The Union Defendants have sought to control/lower the supply of  
27 labor and drive up the cost of using nonunion labor such that nonunion  
28

1 contractors are excluded from the Relevant Market by organizing and leading an  
2 unlawful group boycott in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act.

3 156. The Union Defendants have directed and orchestrated concerted  
4 efforts between and among various union contractors in the Relevant Market to  
5 enter into tacit and/or express agreements with the Union Defendants and each  
6 other to offer developers only union labor on any projects within the Relevant  
7 Market and refuse to work with developers who do not accede to their demands to  
8 use only union labor.

9 157. For example, as explained above in Paragraphs 112-114, 116-119,  
10 Defendant LIUNA refused to negotiate with Icon over an alternative labor  
11 arrangement, in part, because LIUNA entered a “most favored nation” agreement  
12 with a competing developer whereby LIUNA agreed with the competing  
13 developer not to enter more favorable agreements with other developers, such as  
14 Icon. Given the lower costs of nonunion labor, this type of agreement ensures that  
15 LIUNA, and the union contractors which participate in the unlawful group  
16 boycott with LIUNA described above, will never agree to allow a developer to  
17 use any nonunion labor on any project, effectively foreclosing nonunion  
18 contractors from entering the Relevant Market.

19 158. On information and belief, union contractors who have agreed to  
20 participate in the unlawful group boycott described above have refused to work  
21 with developers like Icon, and/or bid on any development projects, where the  
22 developer does not pledge to use only union labor.

23 159. As part of this unlawful group boycott, the Union Defendants have  
24 made clear their intent to prevent development of medium to large scaled projects  
25 that require environmental review in the Relevant Market on which union labor is  
26 not used. Their objective is to obtain a monopoly by increasing and controlling  
27

1 wage rates and/or destroying competition in the Relevant Market and to obtain  
2 and maintain a dominant market position.

3 160. The Union Defendants have willfully sought to acquire and maintain  
4 a monopoly in the Relevant Market through predatory, unlawful, fraudulent  
5 and/or other anti-competitive business practices such as directing the above-  
6 described group boycott. The Union Defendants' intent to monopolize can be  
7 inferred from the nature of their illegal conduct.

8 161. The Union Defendants' illegal conduct is not exempted from the  
9 Sherman Act or any other anti-trust law because they have sought to act in concert  
10 with construction contractors and consulting companies like SWAPE and SEM –  
11 all non-labor groups – to achieve a monopoly in the Relevant Market and have  
12 sought to obtain that monopoly through illegitimate means and for illegitimate  
13 purposes, including an unlawful group boycott as described above.

14 162. The Union Defendants-led unlawful group boycott is a per se  
15 violation of section 1 of the Sherman Act. Alternatively, the Union Defendants-  
16 led unlawful group boycott violates the Rule of Reason because it harmed not  
17 only Icon's business, but also competition in the Relevant Market among  
18 suppliers of labor for development projects as described herein.

19 163. Icon is a "person" entitled to sue under 15 U.S.C. § 15, because it has  
20 been injured as a direct result of the Union Defendants' antitrust violations  
21 described herein. Icon's injury was caused by a substantial reduction in the  
22 available supply of labor in the Relevant Market as a result of the Union  
23 Defendants' illegal conduct, which was intended to, and did in fact, have an  
24 anticompetitive effect beyond the costly delays in Icon's Project and the other  
25 damages it has suffered. Specifically, the Union Defendants' illegal conduct has  
26 removed nonunion labor from the Relevant Market: either developers (i) succumb  
27 and pledge to use exclusively union labor, substantially driving up their labor  
28

1 costs, or (ii) decline such a pledge, suffer delays to their projects caused by the  
 2 Union Defendants' sham and baseless CEQA litigation, and incur substantial  
 3 litigation costs in defending against that litigation.

4 164. As a direct and proximate result of the Unions' above-described  
 5 anti-competitive activities, Icon has suffered business injuries and/or loss of  
 6 property by, among other things, threats to their projects, loss of goodwill,  
 7 significant lost profits, costs of suit and attorneys' fees, a loss of revenue that will  
 8 impact prices paid by consumers of the Project and other projects that project-  
 9 owners seek, or will seek, to develop, and significant cost overruns due to delays  
 10 in construction of those projects.

11 165. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts herein alleged, Icon has  
 12 been damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

13 166. Icon has suffered, and will continue to suffer, irreparable harm,  
 14 entitling Icon to injunctive relief, if the Union Defendants are not enjoined from  
 15 engaging in their anti-competitive conduct.

#### 16 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

##### 17 **Conspiracy and Attempt to Enter Into Exclusive Dealing Arrangement in** 18 **Violation of Section 3 of the Clayton Act and Section 1 of the Sherman Act**

19 167. Paragraphs 1 through 166 are re-alleged and reincorporated herein.

20 168. By engaging in predatory, unlawful, fraudulent and/or other anti-  
 21 competitive business practices, including but not limited to initiating or  
 22 threatening to initiate sham and objectively baseless CEQA-based protests and  
 23 litigation that will prevent or delay the development of construction (including the  
 24 Project) within the Relevant Market, the Union Defendants seek to create an  
 25 unlawful exclusive dealing arrangement between themselves and contractors  
 26 which work on development projects like Icon's Project, all of which is prohibited  
 27 by section 3 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. § 14. Under this exclusive dealing  
 28



1 arrangement, whereby contractors pledge to the Union Defendants in advance of  
2 any bids the contractors may submit on construction projects in the Relevant  
3 Market that they will use exclusively union labor on such projects, union  
4 contractors become the exclusive source of labor services available for purchase  
5 by developers like Icon.

6 169. The Union Defendants knowingly and willfully conspired among  
7 themselves and others, including the non-labor groups described above, to obtain  
8 an exclusive dealing arrangement in violation of section 3 of the Clayton Act.

9 170. The Union Defendants' specific intent to monopolize the Relevant  
10 Market through an unlawful exclusive dealing arrangement is apparent from the  
11 character of the Union Defendants' conduct and their actions as alleged in this  
12 Complaint.

13 171. The Union Defendants committed overt acts and engaged in other  
14 conduct pursuant to, and in furtherance of, the above-described conspiracy. The  
15 Union Defendants have engaged in predatory, unlawful, fraudulent and/or other  
16 anti-competitive business practices directed toward achieving the objective of  
17 controlling labor costs, eliminating or foreclosing a substantial share of the  
18 nonunion labor supply that exists or previously existed in the Relevant Market,  
19 and destroying competition in the Relevant Market.

20 172. The Union Defendants did the acts and things alleged in this  
21 Complaint pursuant to, and in furtherance of, the conspiracy. By virtue of the  
22 Union Defendants' statements, behavior, conduct, overt acts, and omissions to  
23 prevent or substantially delay Icon from proceeding with the Project and other  
24 construction projects, the Union Defendants have the specific intent to enter into  
25 an exclusive dealing arrangement in violation of Section 3 of the Clayton Act.

26 173. The Union Defendants' illegal conduct is not exempted from the  
27 Clayton Act or any other anti-trust law because they have sought to act in concert  
28

1 with construction contractors and certain consulting companies (SWAPE and  
2 SEM) – all non-labor groups – to achieve a monopoly in the Relevant Market and  
3 have sought to obtain that monopoly through illegitimate means and for  
4 illegitimate purposes. In particular, if owners (like Icon) or their  
5 contractors/designated agents do not succumb to the Union Defendants’ demands  
6 that they use only union labor on their construction projects, the Union  
7 Defendants continue to assert their sham and objectively baseless protests and  
8 litigation, which have nothing to do with the legitimate goals of a union or the  
9 purpose of labor law protections.

10 174. The exclusive dealing arrangement described above violates the Rule  
11 of Reason because it harmed not only Icon’s business, but also competition in the  
12 Relevant Market among suppliers of labor for development projects as described  
13 herein.

14 175. Icon is a “person” entitled to sue under 15 U.S.C. § 15, because it has  
15 been injured as a direct result of the Union Defendants’ antitrust violations  
16 described herein. Icon’s injury was caused by a substantial reduction in the  
17 available supply of labor in the Relevant Market as a result of the Union  
18 Defendants’ illegal conduct, which was intended to, and did in fact, have an  
19 anticompetitive effect beyond the costly delays in Icon’s Project and the other  
20 damages it has suffered. Specifically, the Union Defendants’ illegal conduct has  
21 removed nonunion labor from the Relevant Market: either developers (i) succumb  
22 and pledge to use exclusively union labor, substantially driving up their labor  
23 costs, or (ii) decline such a pledge, suffer delays to their projects caused by the  
24 Union Defendants’ sham and baseless CEQA litigation, and incur substantial  
25 litigation costs in defending against that litigation.

26 176. As a direct and proximate result of the Union Defendants conspiracy  
27 to enter into an exclusive dealing arrangement and engage in anti-competitive  
28

1 activities in violation of the Clayton Act, Icon has suffered business injuries  
2 and/or loss of property by, among other things, threats to their projects, loss of  
3 goodwill, significant lost profits, costs of suit and attorneys' fees, a loss of  
4 revenue that will impact prices paid by consumers for the Project and other  
5 projects Icon and other owners seek to develop, and significant cost overruns  
6 due to delays in construction of those projects.

7 177. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts herein alleged, Icon has  
8 been damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

9 178. Icon has suffered, and will continue to suffer, irreparable harm,  
10 entitling Icon to injunctive relief, if the Union Defendants are not enjoined from  
11 engaging in their anti-competitive conduct.

## 12 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

### 13 **Violation of Labor Management Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. § 187**

14 179. Paragraphs 1 through 178 are re-alleged and reincorporated herein.

15 180. Section 303(a) of the Labor Management Relations Act makes it  
16 unlawful for a labor organization, like the Union Defendants, to engage in conduct  
17 defined as an unfair labor practice under section 8(b)(4) of the National Labor  
18 Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. 158(b)(4).

19 181. Under section 8(b)(4) of the NLRA, it is an unfair labor practice for a  
20 union to threaten, coerce, or restrain an employer with the object of forcing the  
21 employer to enter into any agreement prohibited by section 8(e) of the NLRA or  
22 forcing or requiring any employer to cease doing business with any other employer.

23 182. Under section 8(e) of the NLRA, labor organizations and employers  
24 are prohibited from entering into any agreement, express or implied, whereby such  
25 employer ceases or refrains or agrees to cease or refrain from doing business or  
26 otherwise dealing with the products of any other employer.

1           183. The Union Defendants used, and are using, the sham litigation tactics  
2 described herein to coerce Icon to sign project labor agreements in which Icon  
3 pledges to use exclusively union labor on the Panorama Project. Thus, the object of  
4 the Union Defendants' unlawful conduct is to force Icon not to purchase the labor  
5 services offered by nonunion contractors (i.e., "other employers") or otherwise  
6 work with nonunion contractors on the Project. Specifically, the Union  
7 Defendants' unlawful conduct coerces Icon into either (i) succumbing and signing  
8 the project labor agreements, eliminating competitive bidding and substantially  
9 driving up Icon's labor costs, or (ii) declining such a pledge, suffering delays to  
10 their projects caused by the Union Defendants' sham and baseless CEQA  
11 litigation, and incurring substantial litigation costs in defending against that  
12 litigation.

13           184. The project labor agreements are unlawful under section 8(e) of the  
14 NLRA because the Union Defendants do not have a collective bargaining  
15 relationship with Icon, and because the project labor agreements are not directed  
16 towards the "reduction of friction" that may be caused when union and nonunion  
17 employees of different employers are required to work together at the same jobsite.  
18 To the contrary, the Union Defendants' sole motivation in coercing Icon to sign the  
19 unlawful project labor agreements is to monopolize the supply of construction labor  
20 for projects within the Relevant Market, as described herein.

21           185. Under section 303(b) of the LMRA, an employer "injured in his  
22 business or property by reason of any violation" of section 303(a) of the Act may  
23 sue for and recover damages and the cost of suit.

24           186. Icon has standing to bring suit under section 303(b) because it was the  
25 specific target of the Union Defendants' illegal conduct in attempting to coerce Icon  
26 to enter into the project labor agreements. As a direct and proximate result of the  
27 Union Defendants' illegal conduct, Icon has suffered business injuries and/or loss  
28

1 of property by, among other things, threats to their projects, loss of goodwill,  
 2 significant lost profits, costs of suit and attorneys' fees, a loss of revenue that  
 3 will impact prices paid by consumers for the Project and other projects Icon and  
 4 other owners seek to develop, and significant cost overruns due to delays in  
 5 construction of those projects.

6 187. As a proximate result of the wrongful acts herein alleged, Icon has  
 7 been damaged in an amount to be determined at trial.

### 8 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### 9 **Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c)**

10 188. Paragraphs 1 through 187 are re-alleged and reincorporated herein.

11 189. Icon is a "person" within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961(3) and  
 12 1964(c).

13 190. The Union Defendants constitute an "enterprise" engaged in, and  
 14 whose activities affect, interstate commerce within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. §§  
 15 1961(4) and 1962 (the "Enterprise"). The Enterprise exists separate and apart  
 16 from the pattern of racketeering activity alleged and the Union Defendants  
 17 themselves.

18 191. Defendants Alexis Olbrei, Pete Rodriguez, Dan Langford, Ron  
 19 Diamant, Angel Olvera, Sergio Rascon, and Ernesto Pantoja are each "persons"  
 20 within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961(3) and 1962(c), who are employed by  
 21 and/or associated with the Enterprise.

22 192. From April 2017 until the present, the "persons" identified in  
 23 Paragraph 191 conducted, participated in, engaged in, conspired to engage in, or  
 24 aided and abetted the conduct of the affairs of the Enterprise through a pattern of  
 25 racketeering activity within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961(1), 1961(5), and  
 26 1962(c). The predicate acts constituting the pattern of unlawful activity engaged  
 27 in by the "persons" identified in Paragraph 191 constitute:

a. Extortion, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1961(1)(B) and 18 U.S.C. § 1951, including but not limited to:

i. The sham and objectively baseless litigation and related conduct described above beginning in April 2017 and continuing to the present, in which one or more of the “persons” identified in Paragraph 191 threatened to stop and/or delay the Project through unfounded CEQA and/or related challenges and litigation if Icon continued its efforts to develop the Project or other projects in the Relevant Market. Icon’s fear of economic loss from the extortion is reasonable. This extortion obstructed interstate commerce;

ii. Upon information and belief, additional acts of extortion were engaged in by one or more of the “persons” identified in Paragraph 191 beginning on or after April 2017. The information regarding each of those separate acts of extortion is within the custody and control of the Union Defendants and/or their agents.

b. Mail fraud, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1961(1)(B) and 18 U.S.C. § 1341, including but not limited to, one or more of the “persons” identified in Paragraph 191 used the U.S. mails in around April 2017 through August 2018 to submit to the Planning Committee correspondence, petitions, “written comments,” and/or other documents that made false and misleading factual representations about the size, scope and environmental impact of the Project. Upon information and belief, one or more of the “persons” identified in Paragraph 191 made additional uses of the U.S. mails to circulate materially false and misleading information and/or documents about the Project. The information regarding those additional separate mail fraud violations is entirely within the custody and control of the Union Defendants and/or their agents.

193. These acts all occurred after the effective date of RICO and more than two such acts occurred within ten years of one another.

1           194. All of the predicate acts described herein were continuous so as to  
2 form a pattern of racketeering activity in that the “persons” identified in  
3 Paragraph 191 engaged in the predicate acts over a substantial period of time and  
4 such predicate acts have become their regular way of conducting business, and  
5 these business practices will continue indefinitely into the future unless restrained  
6 by this Court. Specifically, the “persons” identified in Paragraph 191 knowingly  
7 violated the extortion, mail fraud statutes and other statutes discussed in the  
8 preceding paragraphs in connection with their illegal schemes. Each of these acts  
9 constitutes a separate and distinct racketeering activity, as defined in 18 U.S.C. §  
10 1961(a).

11           195. The “persons” identified in Paragraph 191 have engaged in numerous  
12 illegal acts in connection with their fraudulent schemes, as described in the  
13 preceding paragraphs. Those illegal acts constitute predicate acts of racketeering  
14 activity within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 1961(1) and were perpetrated for the  
15 same or similar purpose, and had similar results, participants, victims, and  
16 methods of communication.

17           196. As a direct and proximate result of, and by reason of the activities of  
18 the “persons” identified in Paragraph 191, and their conduct in violation of 18  
19 U.S.C. § 1962(c), Icon has been injured in its business or property within the  
20 meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 1964(c). The above-described actions were taken, among  
21 other purposes described herein, with the specific intent and for the purpose of  
22 carrying out the Union Defendants’ scheme and artifice to defraud and to conduct  
23 or participate in the affairs of the Enterprise. These acts are capable of repetition.  
24 Furthermore, the extortionate conduct aimed at Icon was done specifically to  
25 prevent construction of the Project and any other project which would utilize non-  
26 union labor.



1           197. As a result of these actions, Icon has been injured in its business or  
2 property, having suffered, among other things, threats to their projects, significant  
3 lost profits, lost goodwill, costs of suit and attorneys' fees, and significant cost  
4 overruns due to delays in construction of the Project.

5           198. Icon is entitled to recover treble the damages it has sustained together  
6 with the cost of the suit, including reasonable attorneys' and experts' fees.

7           199. Icon has suffered, and will continue to suffer, irreparable harm,  
8 entitling Icon to injunctive relief, if the Union Defendants are not enjoined from  
9 engaging in their anti-competitive conduct.

## 10                                   **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

### 11           **Unfair Competition, Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, Against All Defendants**

12           200. Paragraphs 1 through 199 are re-alleged and reincorporated herein.

13           201. Icon brings this action on its own behalf as an entity that has suffered  
14 injury in fact and lost money or property as a result of the Union Defendants'  
15 unfair competition within Los Angeles County, California.

16           202. The Union Defendants have engaged in unfair competition by  
17 committing acts that are unlawful, unfair, and fraudulent business practices or acts  
18 as defined by the California Business and Professions Code sections 17200, *et*  
19 *seq.* by, among other things, engaging in the acts described above, including but  
20 not limited to:

21                   a. Conduct that constitutes or threatens incipient violation of the  
22 Sherman and Clayton Acts, 15 U.S.C. § 2, *et seq.*, and/or violates the policy and  
23 spirit of these laws by significantly threatening or actually harming lawful  
24 competition, including but not limited to the conduct described in the first,  
25 second, third, and fourth causes of action;

1           b. Conduct that violates the Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt  
2 Organizations Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1960, *et seq.*, including but not limited to the  
3 predicate acts described in Paragraphs 192-196 above; and

4           c. Initiating and maintaining frivolous sham inquiries or  
5 objections to the Project, with the sole purpose of halting or delaying completion  
6 of the Project.

7           203. The acts described in this Complaint constitute numerous individuals  
8 and combined unfair, unlawful, and/or fraudulent acts or practices within the  
9 meaning of Business and Professions Code sections 17200, *et seq.* The totality of  
10 the Union Defendants' conduct has enabled the Union Defendants, among other  
11 things, to dominate and control competition, including the sale of labor services to  
12 construction contractors and project developers, including but not limited to Icon,  
13 within the Relevant Market. The Union Defendants' conduct as detailed above  
14 represents a significant barrier to entry to the Relevant Market for any developer-  
15 owner, like Icon, which seeks or may seek to use a price-competitive nonunion  
16 contractor. By raising the aggregate wage rate, the Unions' anti-competitive  
17 activities raise barriers to entry in both project-owner and construction contractor  
18 markets because projects will become cost-prohibitive or more costly to complete,  
19 allowing the Union Defendants to maintain their market power in such downstream  
20 markets. As a result of the Union Defendants' illegal actions, market labor prices  
21 will rise to the level set by the Union Defendants when nonunion contractors are  
22 driven out of the market.

23           204. The Union Defendants actively and directly participated in or  
24 provided substantial assistance to others who committed the unfair, unlawful  
25 and/or fraudulent acts or practices described herein.

26           205. The gravity of the harm of the Union Defendants' conduct on Icon as  
27 well as on nonunion contractors and labor within the Relevant Market outweighs  
28

1 any potential benefits of such conduct. The Union Defendants' conduct described  
2 herein offends established public policies, is immoral, unethical, oppressive,  
3 unscrupulous, and is substantially injurious to consumers.

4 206. The Union Defendants' unfair and unlawful business practices are  
5 likely to continue to harm Icon, nonunion contractors and labor, and consumers,  
6 and present a continuing threat to the public.

7 207. As a result of these actions, Icon has been injured in its business or  
8 property, having suffered, among other things, threats to their projects, significant  
9 lost profits, lost goodwill, costs of suit and attorneys' fees, and significant cost  
10 impacts and overruns due to delays in construction of the Project.

11 208. Icon seeks a permanent injunction pursuant to Business and  
12 Professions Code section 17203, restraining and enjoining the Union Defendants  
13 from continuing the acts of unfair competition set forth above;

14 209. Icon requests during this action a preliminary injunction pursuant to  
15 Business and Professions Code section 17203 to enjoin and restrain the Union  
16 Defendants from the acts of unfair competition set forth above;

17 210. Icon is entitled to recover restitutionary disgorgement of profits and  
18 other economic benefits unjustly obtained by the Union Defendants from the Icon  
19 as a result of the Union Defendants' acts of unfair competition;

20 211. Icon requests all costs, expenses and attorneys' fees of suit pursuant  
21 to 17 U.S.C. §§ 503-05; and

22 212. Any other and further relief as the court deems just and equitable.

23 **WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs request judgment against Defendants, and each  
24 of them, for the following:

**ON THE FIRST, SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH CAUSES  
OF ACTION**

213. The Union Defendants and their agents be enjoined during this litigation, and permanently thereafter, from ongoing and future acts constituting violations of Federal antitrust laws to maintain or secure a monopoly, as provided for by 15 U.S.C. § 26;

214. Treble damages under section 4 of the Clayton Act, 15 U.S.C. § 15, arising from harm Icon has sustained as a result of the Union Defendants' violation of section 2 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2;

215. Damages under 29 U.S.C. § 187(b);

216. Prejudgment interest;

217. Costs of suit incurred;

218. All costs, expenses and attorneys' fees; and

219. Such other and further relief as the court deems just and proper.

**ON THE SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

220. Issue a permanent injunction restraining the Union Defendants, their officers, employees, agents, affiliates, parents, subsidiaries and all other persons who act in concert with them from making false, misleading or deceptive statements or representations about the Project;

221. Issue a permanent injunction restraining the Union Defendants, their officers, employees, agents, affiliates, parents, subsidiaries and all other persons who act in concert with them from extorting Icon;

222. Award damages against the Union Defendants, jointly and severally, for a sum of money equal to the amount of damages Icon has sustained or will sustain, said amount to be trebled pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1964(c);

223. Award prejudgment interest on the amount of damages Icon has sustained;

1       224. Award all costs of litigation incurred by Icon, including its  
2 reasonable attorneys' fees and expert witness fees, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §  
3 1964(c);

4       225. Award punitive damages; and

5       226. Award such other further relief as the Court deems just and  
6 equitable.

7 **ON THE SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

8       227. A permanent injunction pursuant to Business and Professions Code  
9 section 17203, restraining and the Union Defendants from continuing the acts of  
10 unfair competition set forth above;

11       228. During this action, a preliminary injunction pursuant to Business and  
12 Professions Code section 17203 to enjoin and restrain the Union Defendants from  
13 the acts of unfair competition set forth above;

14       229. The Union Defendants be ordered to restore all funds acquired by the  
15 acts of unfair competition set forth above pursuant to Business and Professions  
16 Code section 17203;

17       230. For all costs, expenses and attorney's fees of suit pursuant to 17  
18 U.S.C. §§ 503-05; and

19       231. Any other and further relief as the court deems just and equitable.

20       DATED: January 9, 2019.

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22                               s/ Jason Levin

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